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## Menominee takes TCJ championship



M. Wilson/MNN

Menominee's Dave Waupoose, Jr. heads safely into 3rd base as Bowler's Lee Davids awaits the throw from left field. Waupoose later scored as Menominee topped Bowler, 5-3, in the Tri-County Junior championship game at the Keshena Recreation Field.

Story and team photo on page 19

## Indictments likely in false EPA documents case

By MELANIE FONDER  
Reprinted courtesy of  
The Green Bay News-Chronicle

Federal grand juries are hearing testimony into allegations of wrongdoing at the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency over the 1995 application by the Oneida Tribe of Indians of Wisconsin to regulate water quality on its reservation, according to an official with a conservative think tank in Arlington, Va.

Bonner Cohen, a senior fellow with the Lexington Institute, said he has learned indictments are likely against high-ranking employees of the EPA Region Five office in Chicago.

"I am told the indictments are to be handed down between (July 15) and the 31st of the month. Exactly who will be indicted is what we don't know at this time," Cohen said.

Employees who have been implicated in the matter are former Region Five administrator Dave Ulrich, regional counsel Gayle Ginsberg, attorney Marc Radell and Claudia Johnson-Schultz, Cohen said.

The tribe applied to obtain a "treatment as a state" designation that would give it regulatory authority over

Please see EPA page 2

## Signs posted at area roads



Y. Kaquatosy/MNN

Rory Griffin positions a sign as Darrel Delabruce prepares to add fill at Camp 5 road north of Neopit. This is the second of approximately 140 that will be posted to identify area roads on the Menominee reservation. Please see SIGN page 2.

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waters running through the reservation, and the application was approved by the EPA in January 1996. The state of Wisconsin contested that ruling because it said 85 percent of the affected land was not owned by tribal members. Through the course of the lawsuit, state attorneys discovered what they believed to be fraudulent documents; An analysis justifying the EPA decision apparently was written in the spring of 1996 and given a January date.

According to an article in the June Reader's Digest by contributing editor Trevor Armbrister, a coworker testified in a deposition that Radell said, "Don't worry . . . we can pull together whatever is necessary and backdate" the document.

Radell and Johnson-Schulz provided sworn affidavits that the phony date on the analysis was accurate, and officials above them supported them, the report said.

Jim Haney, spokesman for the state attorney general's office in Madison, confirmed federal authorities began looking into the matter after the lawsuit was settled, but he said he did not know the status of the probe.

"The US Department of Justice commenced an investigation into the wrongdoings of the case," Haney said. "They had to figure out what would be the appropriate penalties for those employees; if they have done that, I don't know." Haney said the EPA paid the state \$33,168 for attorney's fees as part of the dismissal of the Oneida matter in June 1998.

In a related case involving the Lac du Flambeau band of Chippewa Indians, the EPA paid the state \$105,875, Haney said. "Our attorneys found key documents in the case were actually created after the depositions had been made. The records were falsified," Haney said. "Once the EPA rescinded on the treatment of state, we then pressed for the fees and costs."

Cohen said he believes two grand juries have been convened, one in Milwaukee and one in Washington, DC. EPA officials in Chicago declined to comment. A spokeswoman at the US Department of Justice said she could not comment whether a grand jury was under way. "Over the years I have developed sources at the EPA, and they have kept me informed," Cohen said. "I started digging into this and I was actually amazed by what I saw."

Since the matter was dropped, the Oneida tribe has steered clear of the EPA on the water issue.

Jeff House, tribal spokesman, said the tribe has not pursued the regulatory authority issue further since the state challenged the EPA's original ruling.

"We have not since reapplied (following the lawsuit);we don't know at this time if we will in the future," House said.

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SIGN:

By Yvonne M. Kaquatosh

Menominee Nation News

Approximately 140 signs will be placed at specific road sites throughout the Menominee reservation. The project is estimated to take about 4-5 weeks to complete according to Pat Grignon, Menominee Tribal Enterprise (MTE) Road Supervisor.

One of the main reasons for the sign identification was due to accidents and liability purposes.

"It is an effort on our (MTE) part to provide assistance for County and Tribal law enforcement officials who are unfamiliar with the names of local roads throughout the reservation", explained Grignon.

Rory Griffin and Darrel Delabrue have made up 40 signs so far, with assistance from Don 'Buddy' Maskewit. Initially, signs will be posted on the main highways and will eventually encompass the whole reservation. There will be 27 posted west of the tracks (north of Neopit) and 20 will be put up on the south side.

MTE is absorbing the cost for the materials, Grignon added. The lumber alone is estimated to cost \$2,400, with an estimated \$2,500 for labor.

Darrel E. Crow, Sam Mack and Ron 'Feller' Wayka have been hired under JTPA to help fellow JTPA workers, Griffin and Delabrue put up the signs. Don 'Buddy' Maskewit is their supervisor.

According to Grignon, one sign has already been knocked down by Mattoon Road. "Replacement costs can be very expensive," said Grignon. Community members are encouraged to contact the local crime stoppers chapter if they see anyone vandalizing the signs.

Tearing down the signs serves no purpose but to prolong the estimated time of arrival for law enforcement or EMT's to get to an accident in a life and death situation. Think about it!